

## Bedford Heights Update



**Fletcher D. Berger**  
Mayor/Safety Dir. of  
Bedford Heights

One hundred new homes have been constructed in Bedford Heights since 2002. **In the last six months 90 residential occupancy permits have been issued** to homeowners who have decided to relocate to Bedford Heights. These families believe as I do, that Bedford Heights is a fine community in which to raise a family. Young professionals and empty nesters have discovered the charm and geographic convenience of Bedford Heights. Some of our youth who grew up in the city years ago have now come back to own homes and establish roots of their own. With the influx of new home ownership in the community, we want to ensure that everyone has an understanding of and access to the basic standards of residential occupancy here in Bedford Heights. Under Chapters 1377, 1387 and 1393 (*as well as others*) of the Bedford Heights Codified Ordinances residents, new and old, will be able to comply with the rules, laws, and regulations governing our community. You can visit our website ([www.bedfordheights.gov](http://www.bedfordheights.gov)) and click on the Codified Ordinance link to find what you are looking for.

**We have discovered the presence of the highly destructive insect known as the Emerald Ash Borer (EAB)** residing in some of our community's tree lawn Ash trees. This insect has infected a number of Ash trees in the city, and over the course of the next 3-5 years, every tree lawn Ash tree in Bedford Heights will be removed in an effort to deter the infestation. We apologize for the inconvenience however this is a necessary process to try to rid our city of this invasive species. If you have any questions regarding the removal and replacement of your trees please contact our Public Works Director (*Nick Baucco – 440-232-8832*).

The City of Bedford Heights Department of Community Life announces the sponsorship of the **Summer Food Service Program for Children**. FREE meals will be made available to all children 18 years of age and under or persons over 18 who are determined by a state or local public educational agency to be mentally or physically disabled. Program starts Monday, June 17<sup>th</sup> and runs through Friday August 9, 2013 (*Closed 4<sup>th</sup> of July*) Monday thru Friday. Meals will be provided at the following sites: Bedford Heights Community Center (*5615 Perkins Rd*) from 9am to 10am and noon to 1:30; Metro Estates Playground (*6634 Basswood Dr*) from 1pm to 2pm and 4pm to 5pm; Reed Park (*24780 Eldridge Blvd*) from 1pm to 2pm and 4pm to 5pm.

**Happy Mother's Day** to Bedford Heights mothers and to mothers everywhere. Too often we take mothers for granted and overlook the awesome responsibilities mothers have in our society. Mother's Day is annually held on the second Sunday of May. It celebrates motherhood and is a time to appreciate mothers and mother figures. If your Mom is still with you, give her a call, a big hug and a kiss or take her out for a lunch or dinner. Thanks Moms!

On Saturday, April 27<sup>th</sup>, we distributed **10,000 pounds of food to Bedford Heights residents as part of our FREE Mobile Food Pantry** in partnership with the Cleveland Foodbank. **The FREE Mobile Food Pantry is for Bedford Heights Residents ONLY** and takes place at the Bedford Heights Community Center (*5615 Perkins Road*) from the hours of 9:00am – 11:00am. (*first come-first serve/rain, snow or shine*). Please, one registration form per household. Residents must meet income eligibility requirements; provide proof of residency and a valid photo ID.

May 18<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 am to 11:00 am is our **Community Shred Day** for Bedford Heights Residents. On that same day, from 11:00 am to 3:00 pm, the **Police Department will have their 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Open House**.

**The Miss Bedford Heights Contest** will once again be a prominent part of our Family Fun Day festivities on Saturday, June 29<sup>th</sup>. We have added something new this year just for our young men. This year we will also crown a Mr. Bedford Heights. If you are a Bedford Heights resident between the ages of 14-20 with a 2.5 or higher GPA (*High School or College*) and would like to participate, call or email Mrs. Cole in the Mayor's office (*440-786-3214 or [reneec@bedfordheights.gov](mailto:reneec@bedfordheights.gov)*) to receive more information and/or a contest entry form. Deadline to enter is May 20, 2013.

### **Important city ordinance to be mindful of: 1377.09 Exterior Property Areas**

No owner or operator of any premises shall maintain or permit to be maintained at or on the exterior areas of such premises any condition which deteriorates or defaces that appearance of the neighborhood, adversely alters the appearance, or which is a public nuisance or health hazard, including but not limited to the following:

- (a) Broken or dilapidated fences, walls or other structures;
- (b) Improperly maintained walks, including public sidewalks, or driveways, or driveway aprons, creating a hazardous condition;
- (c) Out-of-use or non-usable, dilapidated appliances, automobile or automobile parts;
- (d) Rags, rugs or other materials hung on lines or in other places on such premises, which materials are not being used for general household or housekeeping purposes; broken, dilapidated or unusable furniture, mattresses, or other household furnishing; plastic materials, paints, miscellaneous coverings and/or any other materials, including those described in this section placed at or on the premises in such a manner as to be patently unsightly, grotesque or offensive to the senses;
- (e) Lawns, landscaping and driveways shall also be maintained so as not to constitute a blighting or deteriorating effect in the neighborhood. Driveways shall be repaired and maintained with existing like material of either concrete or asphalt constructed in accordance with specifications prescribed by the

Building Division. All sidewalks shall be repaired or replaced with concrete and the owner or operator of the premises shall be responsible therefore, irrespective of any municipally-financed sidewalk program, which may eventually be implemented by the City at a later date;

**(f)** No motor vehicle, motor home, recreational vehicle (RV), boat, or other recreational vehicle, item, or device shall be parked upon the premises except upon driveways, parking lots or in garages. No parking shall be allowed on any grass, earth, stone, or patio areas. No such vehicle that is unlicensed, seldom moved (*as determined by the Code Official*) or immovable shall be parked, kept or stored on any private or public property, and no such vehicle shall at any time be in a state of major disrepair, dis-assembly, or in the process of being stripped or dismantled, regardless of whether it has valid license plates, with the following exception: A vehicle of any type may be permitted to undergo major overhaul provided such work is performed inside a structure or similarly enclosed areas designed, titled or owned by the owner of the property, and approved by the City Fire Chief and the City Building Commissioner for such purpose.

**To stay in touch with what's going on in Bedford Heights, visit our website ([www.bedfordheights.gov](http://www.bedfordheights.gov)), our facebook page, our city calendar (*on our website*) or tune in to BHTV Cable Channel 20. We want to ensure that you're informed, involved and aware.**